

RCE of Serial No. 09/400,492

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Group Art Unit: 1646

sequence of the PCIP protein, e.g., the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, SEQ ID NO:32, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:55, SEQ ID NO:57, SEQ ID NO:59, SEQ ID NO:70, or SEQ ID NO:72, which include less amino acids than the full length PCIP proteins, and exhibit at least one activity of a PCIP protein. Typically, biologically active portions comprise a domain or motif with at least one activity of the PCIP protein, e.g., binding of a potassium channel subunit. A biologically active portion of a PCIP protein can be a polypeptide which is, for example, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, or more amino acids in length. Biologically active portions of a PCIP protein can be used as targets for developing agents which modulate a potassium channel mediated activity.--

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 22, without prejudice, and amend claims 1, 3, 17, 18 and 19 as follows:

1. **(Amended)** A method for identifying a compound suitable for treating a cardiovascular disorder comprising:
 - a) contacting a 9q PCIP polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, and 28, or a cell expressing said 9q PCIP polypeptide with a test compound; and
 - b) determining whether said 9q PCIP polypeptide binds to said test compound, thereby identifying a compound suitable for treating a cardiovascular disorder.

3. **(Amended)** A method for identifying a compound suitable for treating a cardiovascular disorder, comprising:
 - a) incubating a cell expressing i) a potassium channel comprising a Kv4.3 or Kv4.2 subunit, or a fragment of a potassium channel comprising a Kv4.3 or Kv4.2 subunit, and ii) a 9q PCIP polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group